

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 5759

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PFOR PORG YO

SUBJECT: EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTY CONFERENCE

REF : A) BELGRADE 5391 B) BELGRADE 5642 (NTOAL)

1. IN FIRST PUBLIC AND OFFICIAL YUGOSLAV STATEMENT ON RESULTS OF OCTOBER 9-10 ECPC MEETING IN EAST BERLIN, THE YUGOSLAV REPRESENTATIVE AT THAT MEETING LCY SECRETARY FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS ALEKSANDAR GRICKOV ON OCTOBER 30TH CHARACTERIZED NEW DRAFT AS "POSSIBLE AND ACCEPTABLE BASIS FOR FURTHER WORK" TOWARDS FINAL "POLITICAL COMMUNICATION". AT SAME TIME GRICKOV STATED "ALL PARTIES GAVE A SERIES OF PROPOSALS AND FORMULATIONS WHICH MUST BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT...NEW, MUTUAL EFFORTS WILL BE REQUIRED OF ALL PARTIES TO ARRIVE AT FINAL ACT OF CONFERENCE". THE WORKING GROUP'S EXPERIENCE HAS BEEN "NEITHER SIMPLE NOR EASY....IT HAS CONFRONTED CERTAIN DIFFICULTIES WHICH ARE A NATURAL RESULT OF DIFFERENT VIEWS, POSITIONS AND ESTIMATES".

2. GRICKOV CHARACTERIZED YUGOSLAV VIEW OF CONFERENCE ITSELF AS A "FREE AND EQUAL EXCHANGE OF THINKING" DESIGNED TO "SUPPORT RESULTS OF CSCE AND TO POINT TO PATHS AND PERSPECTIVES FOR FURTHER STRENGTHENING AND DEVELOPMENT OF PROCESS OF EASING INTERNATIONAL TENSIONS".

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3. CLEARLY SENSITIVE TO CHARGE YUGOSLAVS MAY BE SOFTEN-

ING THEIR PROLETARIAN ZEAL, GRICKOV ASSERTS THAT
"STRUGGLE FOR STRENGTHENING OF PEACE, SECURITY AND ALL-
ROUND COOPERATION ON PRINCIPLE OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE
DOES NOT CONSTITUTE ANY NARROWING OF EITHER ROOM FOR
SOCIAL PROGRESS OR POSSIBILITIES OF CLASS STRUGGLE".
HE SEES DETENTE AS AIDING RATHER THAN IMPEDING SOCIAL
PROGRESS AND CLASS STRUGGLE IN EACH COUNTRY. ON OTHER HAND,
GRICKOV ATTACKS DOGMATIC VERSION OF HOW CLASS STRUGGLE
SHOULD BE CONDUCTED AND HITS FUNDAMENTAL POINT OF
DISAGREEMENT AT BERLIN WHEN HE DEFINES CLASS STRUGGLE
IN TERMS OF "BROADEST POSSIBLE COOPERATION ON A BASIS OF
EQUALITY BETWEEN ALL PROGRESSIVE AND DEMOCRATIC FORCES
AND ALL PEOPLES OF EUROPE.

4. DURING OCTOBER 29 CALL ON DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF LCY'S
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS DIVISION ZVONKO GRAHIK, VISITING
YUGOSLAV DESK OFFICER THOMPSON AND POL COUNSELOR WERE
TOLD YUGOSLAVS BELIEVE ECPC COULD TAKE PLACE "AT END
OF THIS OR EARLY NEXT YEAR". GRAHIK SAID YUGOSLAVS
STILL HAVE PLENTY OF COMMENTS ON DOCUMENT. HE CONFIRMED
(SEE REF B) THERE IS MAJOR DIFFERENCE OVER INCLUSION OF PHRASE
"PROLETARIAN INTERNATIONALISM" (WHICH FOR YUGOSLAVS
MEANS OBEDIENCE TO MOSCOW) AND THAT THEY ARE ON OPPOSITE
SIDES OF THIS ISSUE WITH ROMANIANS--HE SAID ROMANIANS HAD
BEEN "FORCED" TO CONCEDE ON THIS ONE. GRAHIK SAID FINAL
DOCUMENT WOULD NOT CONTAIN ALL OF YUGOSLAVIA'S VIEWS,
BUT THAT IT WOULD NOT REPRESENT TOTAL POSITION OF ANY
OTHERS EITHER. HE STRESSED YUGOSLAVS WANT TO PLAY DOWN
SIGNIFICANCE OF DOCUMENT AND TO STRESS MAJOR FOCUS OF ECPC
SHOULD BE DISCUSSIONS AND INDIVIDUAL STATEMENTS WHICH
WILL BE MADE DURING CONFERENCE ITSELF. THIS UNDERLINED
IN GRICKOV STATEMENT WHEN HE SAID "WE CONSIDER THE
BASIC SENSE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS CONFERENCE
WILL BE THE WEALTH OF IDEAS WHICH LEADING PERSONALITIES
WILL PRESENT IN THEIR SPEECHES". YUGOSLAVS CLEARLY WANT
TO ENSHRINE DIVERSITY RATHER THAN UNITY AS GUIDING
PRINCIPLE OF INTER-COMMUNIST RELATIONS.
SILBERMAN

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